

Chapter 9

Streetscape Guidelines

A. Introduction

Huntington Beach has weakly defined points of entry (entry nodes) from the surrounding communities and the San Diego Freeway. Paths and Image corridors which provide a means of vehicular and pedestrian movement in the community lack the characteristics that provide identity and clarity of location. Entry node and corridor design lacks consistent quality landscaping and street furniture.



Coordinated streetscape improvements can be utilized to improve the overall City image by defining its districts, entry points and corridors. Traffic and utility hardware such as backflow devices, traffic control cabinets, cable TV boxes and air vacuum and release enclosures shall be screened from view and colored to blend in with their immediate surroundings. To the extent feasible, the aforementioned appurtenances shall be placed away from intersections, within

easements on private property.



This chapter provides design guidelines and concepts for streetscape improvements within the right-of-way including, entry monument signage, roadway median design, public landscape plant palette, “superblock” corridor perimeter wall design treatments and street furniture.

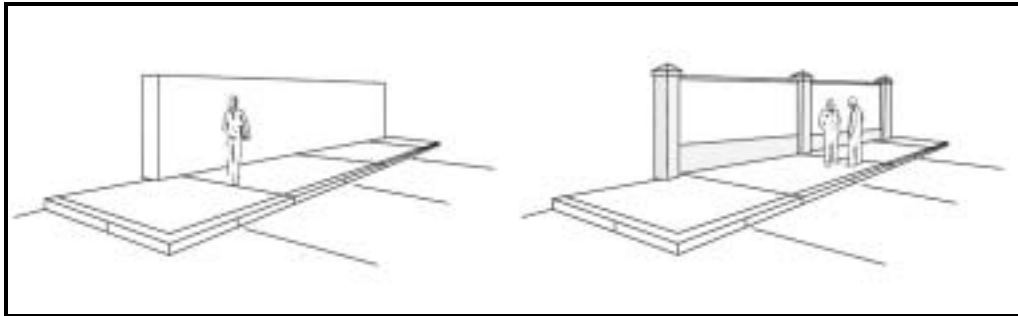
The guidelines encourage high quality design solutions and are intended to be utilized in conjunction with Public Works landscaping and street design standards.

B. General Design Objectives

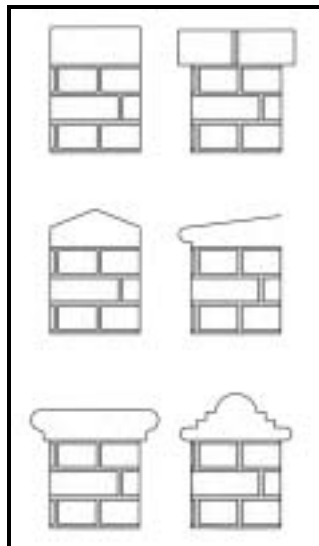
Huntington Beach entry nodes, corridors and districts streetscape design should:

- Provide a clear sense of arrival, through distinctive use of landscaping and special entry features
- Strengthen the City’s street hierarchy by use of a landscape theme palette
- Enhance the pedestrian environment by the inclusion of sidewalk furniture, pedestrian scale light fixtures, street furniture and decorative paving
- Mitigate adverse visual impacts of walls along the residential “superblock” corridors

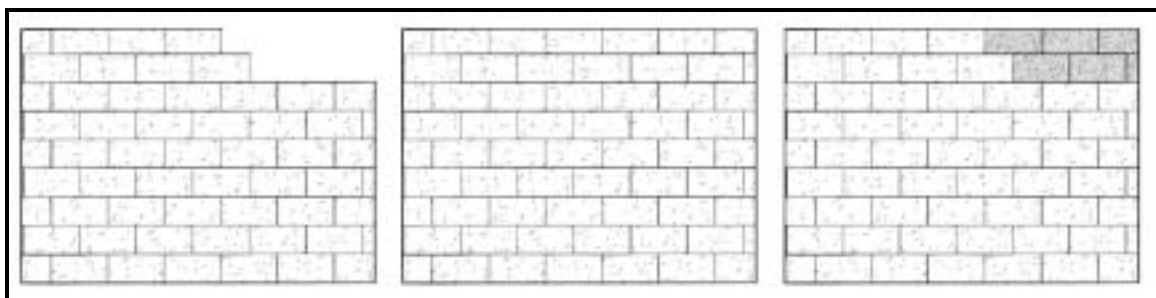
Final details and specifications pertaining to public improvements should be developed through a public process.



New walls, including reconstructed walls, should be designed to add visual interest and should not result in a monotonous blank place.



New wall, including wall extensions and reconstructed walls, should include architectural caps to enhance visual interest.



Damaged Wall

Appropriate Wall

Inappropriate Wall

Damaged walls should be replaced using materials that closely match undamaged portions.

